

Application No. 10/080,496
Amendment After Final Rejection dated September 28, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of July 26, 2004

Remarks

Claims 1-2, 7-9, 15, 21-22, 25-27 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,652,711.

Claim 3 has not been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,652,711. Claim 3 includes the recitation "the elements are electrically conductive bridges electrically interconnecting opposite walls of the slots on the plasma side of the body, thereby interrupting the slots on the plasma side of the body", which is not anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,652,711.

Independent claim 1 is being amended to include the recitation "the elements being electrically conductive bridges electrically interconnecting opposite walls of the slots, thereby interrupting the slots on said only one side of the body", while independent claim 7 is being amended to include the recitation "the elements being electrically conductive bridges electrically interconnecting opposite surfaces, thereby interrupting the slots on said only one side of the body". Accordingly, these claims and their dependent claims are not anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,652,711.

In that U.S. Patent No. 6,652,711 has been applied under 102(e), no rejection of the claims under section 103(a) can be based on the reference, which is assigned to the assignee of the present application. 35 U.S.C. 103(c).

Claims 1-3, 7-10, 14-15, 21-23, 25-28 and 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wicker et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,033,585 in view of Drewery et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,197,165.

Claims 1 and 7 contain a common limitation that is absent from both Wicker et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,033,585 and Drewery et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,197,165. That limitation is that of "a plurality of the slots each having an electrically conductive structural element therein fixed to the body between opposite surfaces thereof on substantially only one of said sides of the body". By "sides" of the body is meant the opposite sides or faces, for example as shown in Figs. 3A and 3B. The fact that the bridges 34 are on "only one of said sides" is further illustrated in Fig. 3C. The significance of this limitation is set forth in the descriptions of Figs. 1A-1C and 2A-2B in

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the specification, and in the objectives stated in the application, any one of which provides motivation for the recited structure that is absent from either of the cited references. Accordingly, no *prima face* case of obviousness is presented.

Claims 21-23 are canceled. As amended, claims 2, 3, 25-28 and 32-36 are dependent on claim 1 and claims 8-10 and 14-18 are dependent on claim 7.

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For the reasons stated above, claims 1-3, 7-10, 14-18, 25-28 and 32-36, as amended, are allowable, and an early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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